

San José State University

Department of Economics

ECON 1B, Principles of Economics: Microeconomics, Section 6 & 64, Fall 2021

Course and Contact Information

Instructor: Dr. Fahmida Fakhruddin

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Email is preferred and the best way to contact me. I will respond to emails within 24 business hours. (Remember to write “Econ 1B-6 or something similar, together with the topic of the email) You can also use the Canvas Inbox.

Virtual Office Hours: Wednesdays 4 pm – 5:30 pm or by appointment

Class Days/Time: Fully online asynchronous class with **NO** designated day/time meeting pattern

Classroom: Online Instruction—All instruction takes place online with no physical in-person meetings or activities required

Canvas Course Page: sjsu.instructure.com

Prerequisites: There are no course prerequisites. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A

Course Description

This course stimulates interest in students about allocation of resources and distribution of income, as affected by the workings of the price system and government policies. May be taken concurrently or prior to ECON 1A.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLO)

Upon successful completion of this course, students have concrete foundation to pursue intermediate study in microeconomic theory related to three broad areas: Incentives, Opportunity Cost, and Supply and Demand.

Specific learning objectives include:

- Incentives Matter (law of demand; law of supply; rational decision makers weight marginal costs versus marginal benefits; the power of self-interest)
- Opportunity Costs (sunk costs; production possibilities; the free-lunch fallacy; tradeoffs in consumption and production; gains from interpersonal & international trade; comparative advantage)
- Supply and Demand (understanding the S&D model as a representation of individual choices in exchange based on individual preferences, knowledge and circumstances; ability to examine current events using S&D tools; movement versus shift; welfare analysis)

Course Format

This course adopts a completely online, asynchronous delivery format with no designated day/time meeting pattern. Reliable internet connectivity and a computer or laptop with **webcam** and **microphone** are required for the course. This course requires the use of electronic proctoring through [Respondus](#) for midterm exams and the final exam.

MYSJSU Messaging and Canvas

Course materials such as syllabus, Norton Inquizitive and Smartwork5 access, videos, resources, handouts, grades, messages regarding the class can be found on [Canvas Learning Management System course login website](#). This will be your “**one stop shop**” for this class. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through [MySJSU](#) to learn of any updates. Please set your Canvas notification preferences to daily (note that the default setting is weekly notification). Please check Canvas “Announcements” for any updates as well as reminders for assignments. See [University Policy F13-2](#) for more details.

Required Texts/Readings

Textbook

Dirk Mateer & Lee Coppock, **PRINCIPLES OF MICROECONOMICS**, 3rd edition, Norton

Paperback ISBN: 978-0-393-42247-4 / Loose leaf ISBN: 978-0-393-43770-6

You will also **need access to the online homework system-InQuizitive and SmartWork5**. Here is how to obtain access to the book and homework system:

- By purchasing a new copy of *Principles of Microeconomics* from the campus bookstore which will contain an activation code for accessing the online homework system .
- By purchasing a copy of the ebook here: <https://digital.wwnorton.com/prinecomi3> which will contain an activation code for accessing the online homework system .
- By purchasing standalone homework access here (if you have a used copy of the book): <https://digital.wwnorton.com/prinecomi3>

Other Readings and Multimedia

Online articles

Online videos

Online assessments

All other will be available at free of charge on the Canvas course site.

Class Philosophy

Some of you start classes feeling isolated and lost but not in our class! This class is a community and each of you is part of the community. We all have the same objective: to learn. This class is designed to have you learn in community with your peers. When you're a member of a community, you can rely upon others for help and

support when you need it, but you must also be willing to step up and contribute regularly, as well! Let's work together to make this semester awesome for everyone!

Technology requirements / equipment / material

REQUIRED: Reliable internet connectivity, Computer/Laptop/Tablet with webcam and microphone, Canvas LMS access, InQuizitive & Smartwork5, and Respondus. [SJSU's technology loan program](#) provides resources for computer equipment and software. Note: Students are responsible for ensuring that they have access to reliable Wi-Fi during exams.

Canvas

Canvas is the "hub" for the course and will house all communication, content, activities, assignments, assessments, exams, grades, and InQuizitive & Smartwork5. Check out all of the [Canvas student resources](#).

InQuizitive & Smartwork5

InQuizitive & Smartwork5 contains course specific content and is integrated with Canvas for single sign-on access.

You are, at a minimum, required to have access to InQuizitive & Smartwork5. You can choose to purchase a print text which will give access to InQuizitive & Smartwork5 or to purchase an ebook which will give access to InQuizitive & Smartwork5 as well. You may choose to buy a standalone InQuizitive & Smartwork5 access if you would like to buy a used book.

Respondus

This course requires the use of electronic proctoring for midterm exams and the final exam through Respondus. For online exam proctoring, it **is necessary that your computer has a webcam with a microphone and a reliable, high-speed internet connection**. Please visit the [SJSU Respondus portal](#) for further information.

Course Requirements

As this class is a four unit class, successful students should expect to spend about 180 hours throughout the session, including reading, preparing for class, participating in course activities, and so on. *More details can be found from [University Syllabus Policy S16-9](#).*

It is expected that you will participate in discussions board, work on InQuizitive assignments, and take quizzes, midterm, and final exam and submit the term paper.

Course Assignments and Grading

Your grade will depend on the following assignments:

InQuizitive	5%
Smartwork5 Quiz	15%
Weekly Discussion	10%
Mid-term 1	20%

Mid-term 2	20%
Final Exam	25%
Term Paper	5%

Converting number grades to letter grades:

97-100	A plus	93-96	A	90-92	A minus
87-89	B plus	83-86	B	80-82	B minus
77-79	C plus	73-76	C	70-72	C minus
67-69	D plus	63-66	D	60-62	D minus
<60	F				

I totally understand the stress of getting good grades. To avoid this stress, please try to do your work on time. If you need help on an assignment, don't wait . Contact me or one of your peers as soon as you can. No worries, we all will work together for your success in this class.

InQuizitive Assignment

These are pre-lecture assignment. Approximately 14 InQuizitive will be given throughout the semester. To understand the class lectures better, I recommend that you finish each chapter's InQuizitive before listening/watching the lecture each week.

SmartWork5 Quiz

Approximately 10 quizzes will be given during the semester to reinforce the key course concepts. The quizzes will build on the material discussed in the class. You will have unlimited attempt for the quiz. I do not recommend missing quizzes, as they will cover important material that will be on midterm and final exams.

Weekly Discussion

Your active participation in each week's Discussion Board is expected and required. We can learn from each other by contributing on the discussion forum . Here are the rules for discussion postings:

Original Post: For each week there will be a discussion topic that you post an original response to. Original posts are due by Wednesday of the week they are assigned. If you don't get these in by Wednesday, you can still submit your original post as soon as you can, but you'll lose some points. So be on time please.

Replies: To receive full credit, you need to reply to at least two of your peer's original posts. You can reply to as many peers as you like. Please do not just say that "I agree or I disagree" . You need to probe-explain why you agree/ disagree. This will help you better understand the content. Don't forget that your replies are due by Sunday at 11:59 pm.

Midterm and Final

The course consists of two midterms and one final exam. Midterm and final exam will cover material presented in class and will be similar to the homework and quiz questions. The final exam will be comprehensive. All exams will be closed book and closed note.

Term Paper

Each student will choose a topic upon instructor's approval to write a term paper as per the GE writing requirement. The purpose of this paper is to get each of you to engage with microeconomic issue by using online economics resources. More detail information will be provided and be available on canvas.

Proctoring Software and Exams

Exams will be proctored in this course through Respondus Monitor and LockDown Browser. Please note it is the instructor's discretion to determine the method of proctoring. If cheating is suspected the proctored videos may be used for further inspection and may become part of the student's disciplinary record. Note that the proctoring software does not determine whether academic misconduct occurred, but does determine whether something irregular occurred that may require further investigation. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor if unexpected interruptions (from a parent or roommate, for example) occur during an exam.

Online Exams Testing Environment: Setup

- No earbuds, headphones, or headsets visible.
- The environment is free of other people besides the student taking the test.
- If students need scratch paper for the test, they should present the front and back of a blank scratch paper to the camera before the test.
- No other browser or windows besides Canvas opened.
- A workplace that is clear of clutter (i.e., reference materials, notes, textbooks, cellphone, tablets, smart watches, monitors, keyboards, gaming consoles, etc.)
- Well-lit environment. Can see the students' eyes and their whole face. Avoid having backlight from a window or other light source opposite the camera.
- Personal calculators - indicate if permitted.

Testing Environment: Scan

Before students can access the test questions, they are expected to conduct a scan around their testing environment to verify that there are no materials that would give the student an unfair advantage during the test. The scan will include:

- the desk/work-space
- a complete view of the computer including USB ports and power cord connections
- a 360-degree view of the complete room

Students must:

- Remain in the testing environment throughout the duration of the test.
- Keep full face, hands, workspace including desk, keyboard, monitor, and scratch paper, in full view of the webcam.

Technical difficulties

Internet connection issues:

Canvas autosaves responses a few times per minute as long as there is an internet connection. If your internet connection is lost, Canvas will warn you but allow you to continue working on your exam. A brief loss of internet connection is unlikely to cause you to lose your work. However, a longer loss of connectivity or weak/unstable connection may jeopardize your exam.

Other technical difficulties:

Immediately email the instructor a current copy of the state of your exam and explain the problem you are facing. Your instructor may not be able to respond immediately or provide technical support. However, the copy of your exam and email will provide a record of the situation. Contact the SJSU technical support for Canvas:

Technical Support for Canvas

Email: ecampus@sjsu.edu

Phone: (408) 924-2337

<https://www.sjsu.edu/ecampus/support/>

If possible, complete your exam in the remaining allotted time, offline if necessary. Email your exam to your instructor within the allotted time or soon after.

Communication Policy

What You Can Expect From Me

I will be an active participant in this course and will be with you on the journey through the entire semester. You can expect that I will:

- Communicate with you at least 3 times per week, via Announcements, Canvas Inbox messages, grading feedback, and/or discussion
- Respond to all student questions within 24 hours
- Provide grades within 1 week of the due date
- Post a few times within each discussion, and also provide overall comments on discussions, via announcements

Late Policy

Plan on submitting work on time.

Every assignment has a due date, and a deadline for submissions. Participants are expected to submit assignments on or before the assigned due date, which, in turn, allows me time to review your work and provide meaningful feedback. Due dates have been designed in the course to ensure time is provided to allow you to produce your best work.

Because time management is challenging, deadlines might not be met. But, you're in luck. Late submissions will be accepted with a penalty. Late assignments will be accepted up to 10 days with a 5% penalty per day.

Don't want the penalty?

If you recognize a due date might be a problem, advocate for your success by following these steps:

1. Identify the problem
2. Contact me to propose a solution
3. Let's negotiate

Netiquette (Conduct Online)

To ensure each member of our course feels included and welcomed, all of us will abide by a few key rules of etiquette. First and foremost, we will treat each other with dignity and respect, while acknowledging that each of us is unique and has different views and opinions about topics. Diversity strengthens our learning community. To ensure everyone feels comfortable engaging in our discussions, please consider this guidance:

- Written communications can be easily misinterpreted so this added care is especially important.
- Each time you make a post or reply in a discussion, read it twice before you submit it to ensure the words you have chosen are considerate but also convey your message.
- If you feel a member of our community has violated our etiquette, please contact me directly. I will tend to your concern in a confidential matter.

Academic Integrity

Students must abide by the San José State University [Academic Integrity Policy](#). There is zero tolerance for cheating, plagiarism, or any other violation of academic integrity. Students who are suspected of academic integrity violations will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office and depending on the severity of the conduct, will receive a zero on the assignment or a grade of F in the course. Grade Forgiveness does not apply to courses for which the original grade was the result of a finding of academic dishonesty.

Accommodations for Learning Disabilities

Students with learning disabilities are encouraged to request accommodations for the course. Please contact the [Accessible Education Center](#) to schedule an appointment with an AEC coordinator to determine eligibility and register.

Policy on Consent for Sharing Instructor and Course Materials

Students are prohibited from recording, distributing, or posting instructor and course materials (including assessment questions, solutions, feedback, discussion posts, PowerPoint presentations, guides, class lectures, office hours, advising sessions, etc.), without prior written approval ([University Policy S12-7](#)). Materials created by the instructor for the course (syllabi, lectures and lecture notes, presentations, etc.) are copyrighted by the instructor. Students who record, distribute, or display (post/upload) these instructor and course materials in any way — whether or not a fee is charged — will be referred to the Student Conduct and Ethical Development office.

University Policies

Per [University Policy S16-9](#), relevant information to all courses, such as academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. is available on Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs' [Syllabus Information web page](#).

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The schedule is subject to change with fair notice in class and on Canvas

Course Schedule

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
1	Aug 19	Orientation, Introduction, Chapter 1, InQuizitive Chp 1, Meet & Greet, Discussion, Week 1 discussion
2	Aug 23- Aug 29	The Power of Trade and Comparative Advantage, Chapter 2, InQuizitive Chp 2, Week 2 Discussion, Quiz 1
3	Aug 30- Sep 05	Demand and Supply, Chapter 3, InQuizitive Chp 3, Week 3 Discussion, Quiz 2
4	Sep 06- Sep 12	Demand and Supply continued, Chapter 3, Week 4 Discussion
5	Sep 13- Sep 19	Elasticity, Chapter 4, InQuizitive Chp 4, Week 5 Discussion, Quiz 3
6	Sep 20- Sep 26	Market Outcomes and Tax Incidence, Chapter 5, , InQuizitive Chp 5, Week 6 Discussion, Quiz 4
7	Sep 27- Oct 03	Price Ceilings and Floors, Chapter 6, InQuizitive Chp 6, Week 7 Discussion, Midterm 1
8	Oct 04- Oct 10	Costs of Production and Factors of Production, Chapter 8 InQuizitive Chp 8, Week 8 Discussion, Quiz 5
9	Oct 11- Oct 17	Cost and Profit Maximization under Perfect Competition, Chapter 9, InQuizitive Chp 9, Week 9 Discussion, Quiz 6
10	Oct 18- Oct 24	Cost and Profit Maximization under Perfect Competition continued, Chapter 9, Week 10 Discussion
11	Oct 25- Oct 31	Monopoly, Chapter 10, InQuizitive Chp 10, Week 11 Discussion, Quiz 7
12	Nov 01- Nov 07	Price Discrimination and Pricing Strategy, Chapter 11, InQuizitive Chp 11, Week 12, Discussion, Quiz 8
13	Nov 08- Nov 14	Monopolistic Competition and Advertising, Chapter 12, InQuizitive Chp 12, Week 13 Discussion
14	Nov 15- Nov 21	Oligopoly and Strategic Behavior, Chapter 13, Week 14 Discussion, Quiz 9 Midterm 2

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
15	Nov 22- Nov 28	Externalities and Public Goods, Chapter 7, InQuizitive Chp 7, Week 15 Discussion
16	Nov 29- Dec 05	Review for Final, Chapter 1-6, 7, 8-13, Quiz 10
17	Dec 06- Dec12	Final Exam